 CARLISLE CITY COUNCIL www.carlisle.gov.uk	
<h1>REPORT TO EXECUTIVE</h1>	
PORTFOLIO AREA: HEALTH AND WELLBEING	
Date of Meeting:	03.04.2003
Public	
Key Decision:	Yes
Recorded in Forward Plan:	Yes
Inside Policy Framework	

Title: CREMATORIUM RENOVATION
Report of: HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SERVICES
Report reference: EPS.24/2003

Summary:

The report seeks Members approval to invite tenders for the final scheme of works.

Recommendations:

Members are recommended to approve the scheme of improvements and that they be advertised for tender in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Contracts Procedure Rules.

Contact Officer: Richard Speirs

Ext: 7325

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND OPTIONS

1. Report EP.03/02 was produced to Members of Executive at their meeting on 19th December, 2002 and outlined proposals for the renovation of the Crematorium.

2. The report identified that the Crematorium had remained virtually unchanged since it was opened in 1956 and was in need of improvement and renovation. The outline scheme proposed the construction of a covered waiting area and improved facilities for mourners entering and leaving the crematorium chapel. The improvements would enhance accessibility and enable the chapel to accommodate the increasing trend for larger services.
 3. The outline capital cost of £225,000 was included in the council's capital proposals for 2003/04 and has subsequently been approved. In considering Report EP.03/02 Members resolved that the draft proposals be opened for consultation with users of the building and that final scheme costings be obtained.
 4. Subsequently the proposals have been circulated and commented upon by the funeral directors and clergy who regularly use the crematorium and costings have been obtained from external surveyors. The results of the consultation exercise, conducted by way of an open evening in January 2003, are attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
 5. The final proposals have taken into account the findings of the consultation in the following respects:-
 - a. The existing entrance doorway from the waiting room to the chapel be enlarged rather than providing a second entrance as proposed.
 - b. Additional doors to be provided at the exit to reduce sound travelling back into the chapel.
1. The revised proposals have been costed and, subject to tendering, appear to be capable of being met within the approved capital allocation

2. CONSULTATION

1. Consultation to Date.

Building users consulted 29/1/2003. See para 1.4.

2. Consultation proposed.

See para. 1.4.

3. STAFFING/RESOURCES COMMENTS

Nil.

4. HEAD OF FINANCE'S COMMENTS

The capital expenditure of £225,000 has been approved as part of the Council's Capital Plan for 2003/04.

5. LEGAL COMMENTS

N/A

6. CORPORATE COMMENTS

N/A

7. RISK MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

Risk assessment will form part of the tender process.

8. EQUALITY ISSUES

Improved access and waiting facilities form a significant element of the scheme

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Improvements to heating system will reduce energy consumption and emissions to air.

10. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

NIL.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are recommended to approve the scheme of improvements and that they be advertised for tender in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Contracts Procedure Rules.

12. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To enable the completion of works in 2003/04 financial year.

APPENDIX 1



APPENDIX 1

RESULTS FROM THE CREMATORIUM PLANS SURVEY

FEBRUARY 2003

Strategic & Performance Services

Lynne Wild

ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONS ON PROPOSED CREMATORIUM PLANS

In February 2003, funeral directors, staff and members of the clergy were invited to attend a meeting at the crematorium to view proposed plans for changes to the buildings. Questionnaires were given out to gather any comments generated about the plans. Out of the 30 that attended, 18 replies were received, giving a response rate of 60%.

Do you like the architects plans for the new entrance?

All said they liked the architects plans for the new entrance, see Chart 1:

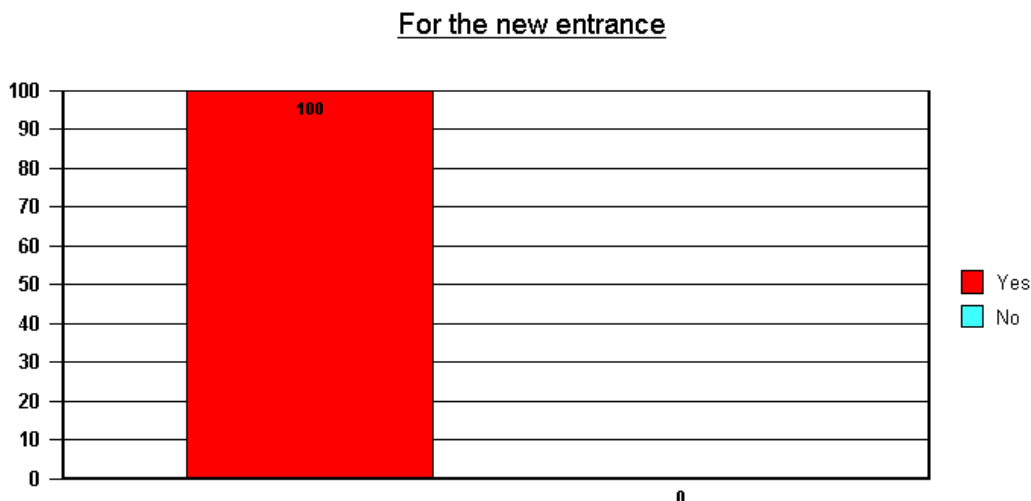
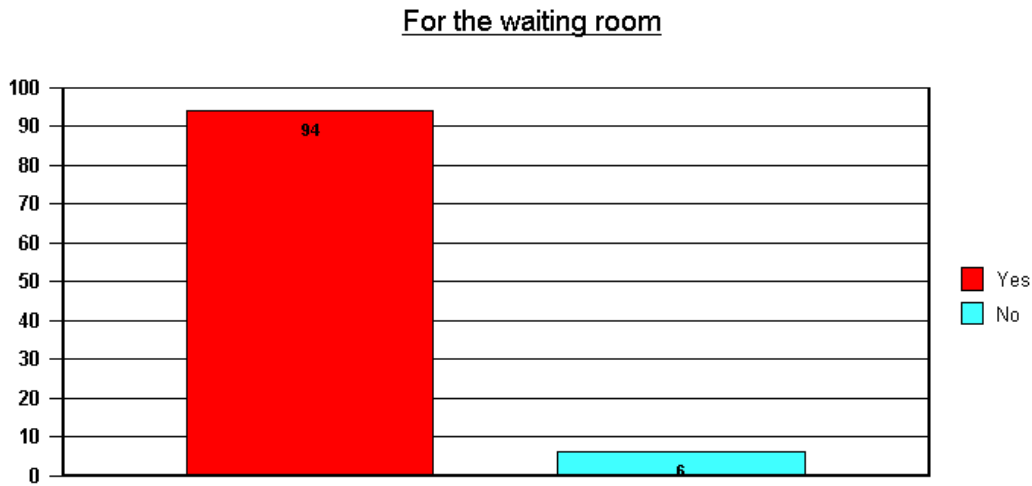


Chart 1

Do you like the architects plans for the new waiting room?

Only one person did not like the plans for the new waiting room, see Chart 2:

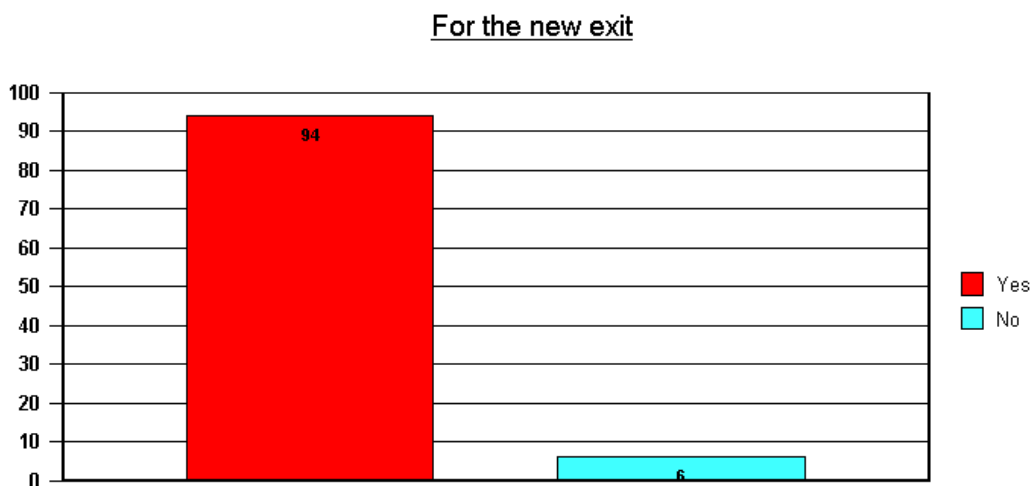
Chart 2



Do you like the architects plans for the new exit?

Another person did not like the plans for the new exit, see Chart 3:

Chart 3



What do you think about the size of the proposed new entrance?

All think the proposed size of the new entrance is 'about right'.

What do you think about the size of the proposed new waiting room?

Only one thinks the proposed size of the waiting room is 'too small'. The remainder said it was 'about right'.

What do you think about the size of the proposed new exit?

One felt the size of the proposed new exit was 'too big'. The remainder said it was 'about right'.

Do you think the changes will improve the crematorium?

Of the 17 that replied, all think the changes will improve the crematorium.

Do you have any concerns about the changes?

14 made comments, 5 mentioned a preference for one set of double doors into the chapel:

- No *2
- No. Long overdue would be the caustic response. Our gratitude for having consulted with you about the changes proposed
- No. Only one set doors into chapel made larger.
- Perhaps one set of double doors would be preferable - not so confusing for mourners.
- One large double door rather than two doors into chapel. Would like to think windows could be double glazed.

- Only 1 large double doors into the chapel area, not 2 as on the plans
- As long as the exit corridor doesn't seem like an impersonal tunnel. Would prefer 1 large double door at back of chapel - would create a more cohesive large chapel area. Can disabled people or people who can't stand for long exit quickly? (via the lobby or back of Remembrance chapel)
- The proposed side door from waiting room to chapel is unnecessary. Existing doorway from foyer to chapel should be enlarged in height & width. Perhaps enclosing the open covered exit area would give adequate room for mourners to have a chat. I feel the proposed plan offers too much space and may result in delays in clearing the place.
- The two doorways into chapel better as a wider access beneath present speakers
- As long as the building work is done quickly
- Waiting too small
- Noise filtering through the wall behind the organ
- Noise of families arriving and leaving

Do you have any other comments about the planned changes?

14 made comments:

- No
- Concern about sound as people leave the chapel. I wonder whether a kind of indoor garden to act as a barrier with the corridor around it.
- Generally good and sensible proposals
- Wind chimes and balloon etc very distracting
- Suggest you fit secondary glazing to metal windows in chapel. It would stop draughts and noise.
- Can only improve service provided
- Left turn from burial chapel may be too tight for some vehicles
- Thanks for including us and for your hospitality
- Excellent proposals - addressing and providing solution to real problems
- I don't like the proposed second set of double doors into the main room. I think it

would spoil the look of what is an interesting, and for its day, advanced architectural design. Instead use the existing double doors, but surround them with additional glass panels, and if possible, insert windows to give greater visibility. (Drawing attached)

- Lighting, outside of crematorium is uninviting when arriving in winter and there are no lights on outside. To June & Richard many thanks to you and your staff for the help given on Wednesday evening and keep up the good work!
- The option of wider doors to the crem that can be opened for more space would, on aesthetic grounds, be preferable unless a glass area was built into each side wall with vertical blinds for smaller funerals?
- I think that widening the doors into chapel would be better than two pairs of doors
- Much imagination?